

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☐
no ☒

Property Name: Victor Lee Farm Inventory Number: G-V-A-068
Address: 218 Mason School Road ~~Mason School Road~~ and US Route 50 Historic district: ☐ yes ☒ no
City: Oakland Zip Code: 21550 County: Garrett
USGS Quadrangle(s): Table Rock MD/WV
Property Owner: Liane G. Preston Tax Account ID Number: 08-001766
Tax Map Parcel Number(s): 42 Tax Map Number: 95
Project: Roth Rock Wind Power Project: Garrett Co. Agency: MD Public Service Comm.
Agency Prepared By: Paula S. Reed and Associates, Inc.
Preparer's Name: Paula Reed Date Prepared: 4/27/2006
Documentation is presented in: MIHP# G-V-A-068, Maryland Coal Region Historic Sites Survey, 1981
Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: ☐ Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility not recommended
Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G
Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:
Name of the District/Property: _____
Inventory Number: _____ Eligible: ☐ yes ☐ no Listed: ☐ yes ☐ no
Site visit by MHT Staff ☐ yes ☒ no Name: _____ Date: _____

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

The Victor Lee farmhouse gets its name from the property owner at the time of the 1981 Coal region Historic Sites Survey. The property is located along US Route 50, about 1/2 mile east of Redhouse, as the road begins its climb up Backbone Mountain. The house dating from ca. 1905 (according to survey documentation) is built in the regionally characteristic vertical plank construction. In this example a layer of horizontal planks is sandwiched between two vertical layers. The two-story gabled dwelling has a three-bay façade with a central entrance. The house stands on a stone foundation. Aluminum siding sheathes the walls and channel drain sheet metal covers the roof. A gable-roofed porch with battered square posts on rusticated cast stone piers, dating from ca. 1920 spans the façade. A garage space occupies the area beneath the porch deck. The house has 1/1 sash windows. A concrete block chimney rises on the west end and a brick chimney is located in the center of the house.

A frame, gable-roofed bank barn with enclosed forebay stands across Rt 50 to the south. Vertical siding covers the barn and painted advertising promotes Mail Pouch Tobacco and Smoke Hole Caverns.

Evaluation:

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ☐ Eligibility not recommended ☒
Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G
MHT Comments:

Grathas Sapp
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

6/25/06
Date

NA
Reviewer, National Register Program

Date

200601843

The farmstead is not associated with local events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of history nor significant persons of the past. There is no available documentation that suggests that this farmstead was particularly significant individually in the community's agricultural history (Criterion A). There is also no available documentation that the farmstead is representative of the lives of any individuals important in local, regional or national history (Criterion B). While vertical plank construction is an important regional type of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, this farmhouse is not a significant example of that type, due to the application of aluminum siding and apparent removal of window trim, and a bungalow style added front porch. There are other more intact examples of this frequently encountered vernacular type in Garrett County, according to survey documentation, specifically G-V-A-072 located nearby. The previous 1981 survey rated this property as "mid-level", which is below National Register eligible and "good" ratings in the survey's National Register eligibility evaluation system. Therefore, the property does not appear to meet National Register Criterion C. Archaeological assessment for Criterion D was not done as part of this evaluation of above-ground resources. This property is not recommended as eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

History/Context:

The predominant occupation in the Redhouse area was grain and livestock farming throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, although lumbering was also prominent, especially in the last quarter of the 19th century. In 1912, coal mining began in southwestern Garrett County, but the landscape on the west side of Backbone Mountain, along the Youghiogheny River remained agricultural. In 1910, close to the time that this farmstead was built, oats, corn, buckwheat, wheat, rye and barley were the most widely cultivated crops and combined with livestock production which thrived on good pastureland in the area's grassy glades.

The area surrounding Redhouse remains a rural farming community. Original mid-nineteenth century farmstead buildings of log or timber frame built by early settlers were replaced with larger buildings constructed with lighter framing or vertical planks in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, as was the case with this property. This process of replacing older first or second period log dwellings with late nineteenth or early twentieth century frame or vertical plank buildings occurred throughout the mountainous far western Maryland region, and is linked to the prominent saw milling industry which ascended around the same time. These late nineteenth century and early twentieth century "replacement" buildings, interspersed with a few modern buildings, (the next generation of replacements), are found on the farms in the Redhouse vicinity in Pleasant Valley. While a few small lots with modern houses adjoin these farms, there is no extensive development in the area. In part the reason that the area has changed little in the last quarter of the twentieth century is that once again other transportation corridors have bypassed the area. The construction of I-68 across northern Garrett County carries most traffic through the region and provides easy access to the Deep Creek Lake resort area north of Oakland, where development has focused. Thus this property has changed little since it was evaluated in 1981.

In the Pleasant Valley area near Redhouse in the southwestern tip of Garrett County, where the area was settled mainly by conservative German sectarians whose names are still attached to the land, buildings are simple and traditional. There is not much in the way of acknowledgement of architectural style, except for embellishments to porches and entrances, and occasional gingerbread trim at the eaves. The German imprint is clearly evident in the type of barns used by the farmers of the region, large structures of frame construction with a bank or ramp at the back and a cantilevered forebay at the front. Known in the nineteenth century as "Swiss" barns, the term leaves little doubt as to their origins.

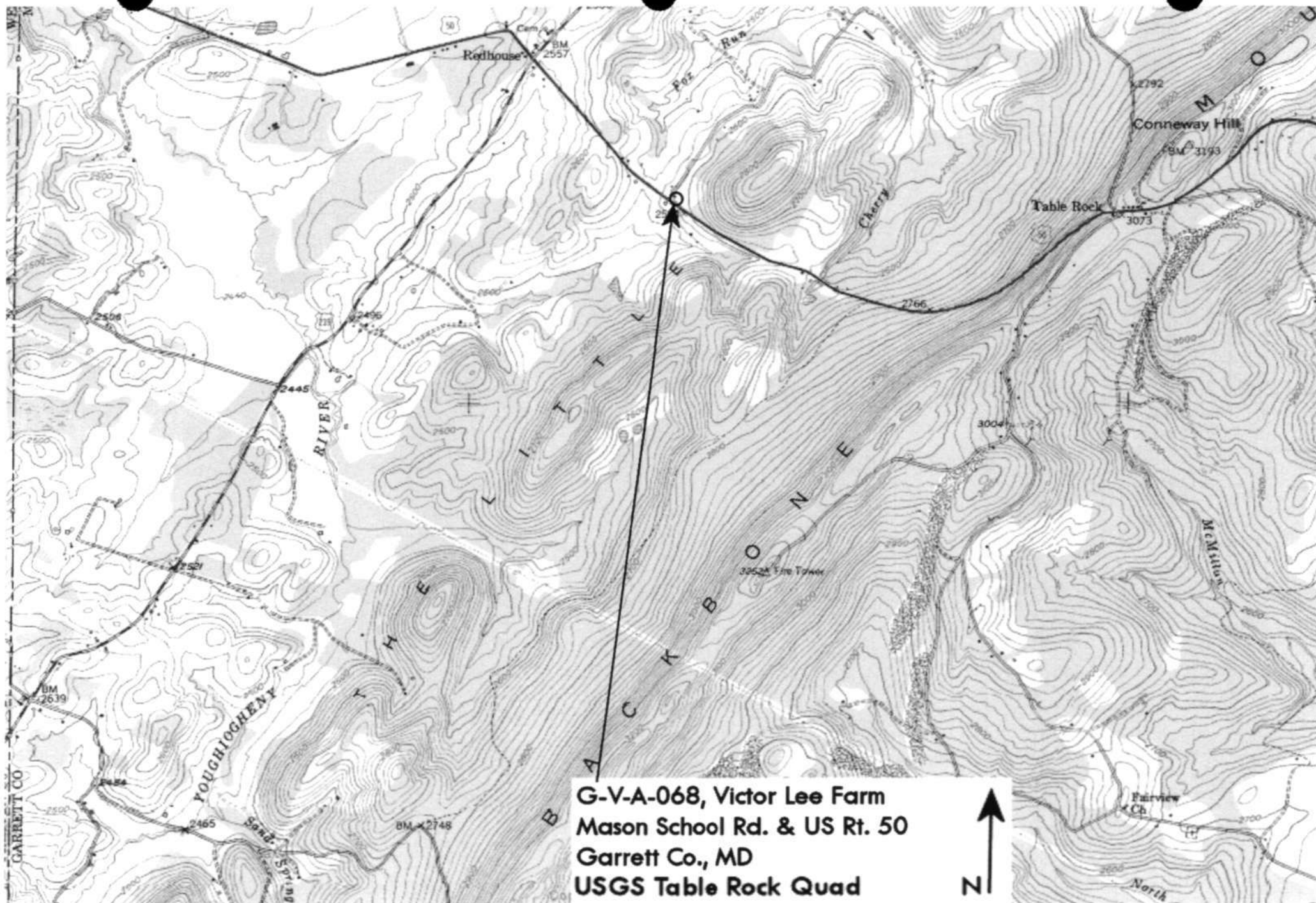
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____

Eligibility not recommended _____

Criteria: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D Considerations: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

MHT Comments:_____
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services_____
Date_____
Reviewer, National Register Program_____
Date





G.V.A. 068

Victor Lee Farm

Garrett Co. MD

Merry Stinson 8/24/05

MD | SHTO

W & Elev. 5

1 of 4



G-V-A-068

Victor Lee Farm

Garrett Co, MD

Paula Reed

4/06

MDSHPO

West elevation, East view

2 of 4



G-V-A-068

Victor Lee Farm

Garrett Co., MD

Paula Reed

4/06

MDSHPO

S E view, rear elevation

3 of 4



Smoke Hole
CAVERNS
TURN RIGHT
15 MILES AHEAD

CHEW
MAIL POUGH
TOBACCO
TREAT YOURSELF TO THE BEST

Q-V-A-068

Garrett Co., MD

Paula Reed

4/06

MDSHPO

Barn, S E view

4 of 4

G-V-A-068

Victor Lee Farm
Redhouse
Private

1905

The Victor Lee farmhouse, built c.1905, is typical for Garrett County, a two-story, three bay by two bay dwelling with a gable roof. However, its plank construction is not the usual treatment of vertical plank construction found in Garrett County: here three thicknesses are used - an outer and inner layer of vertical planks with a horizontal layer in between.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Victor Lee Farm

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Route 50, north and south sides, approx. 3/4 mile east of intersection with Rt. 219

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Redhouse

☒ VICINITY OF

6th

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Garrett County

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☐ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☒ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Victor Lee

Telephone #: (301) 334-3087

STREET & NUMBER

Route 50

CITY, TOWN

Redhouse

☐ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Garrett County Courthouse

Liber #: 137

Folio #: 290

STREET & NUMBER

Third and Alder Streets

CITY, TOWN

Oakland

STATE

Maryland 21550

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

G-V-A-068

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Victor Lee Farm lies on Route 50, the old Northwestern Turnpike, on the western slope of the Little Mountain, just east of Redhouse. It includes a frame house, two frame barns and several frame sheds.

The farmhouse, built c. 1905, is typical for Garrett County, a two-story, three bay by two bay dwelling with a gable roof. It is one variation of vertical plank construction found in Garrett County: here three thicknesses are used - an outer and inner layer of vertical planks with a horizontal layer in between.

The facade has a central entrance and faces SW, toward Route 50. A one-story porch with a gable roof runs across the facade. A one-story ell with a gable roof protrudes from the east end of the rear, NE elevation.

The foundation of the main block consists of coursed stone, covered in places, with a layer of cement. The walls are covered with aluminum siding; original siding is not detectable. Standing seam sheet metal covers the roof.

The facade porch is supported by four rock-faced concrete building block piers surmounted by four tapered wooden posts which support the gabled porch roof. The balustrade of the porch is enclosed and covered with wooden shingles. The pediment created just above the four wooden posts and projecting porch roof is covered with wooden shingles. A single bracket supports the projecting gable peak.

All windows are 1/1 sash. There is an interior brick chimney in the main block and an exterior cinder block chimney at the NW gable end.

There are two barns on this site: a gambrel roofed frame bank barn lies east of the house, across Mason School Road, and a gable roofed frame bank barn with a Mail Pouch Tobacco and Smoke Hole Caverns advertisement painted on each gable end, lies SW of the house, across Route 50.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

G-V-A-068

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house is an example of a common western Maryland type. Houses of this general configuration, a rectangular main block and rear kitchen wing, were constructed in Garrett County from the late nineteenth through the early twentieth centuries.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

G-V-A-068

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Donna Ware, Historian

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust/Bureau of Mines

DATE

July 1981

STREET & NUMBER

Shaw House, 21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

(301) 269-2438

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

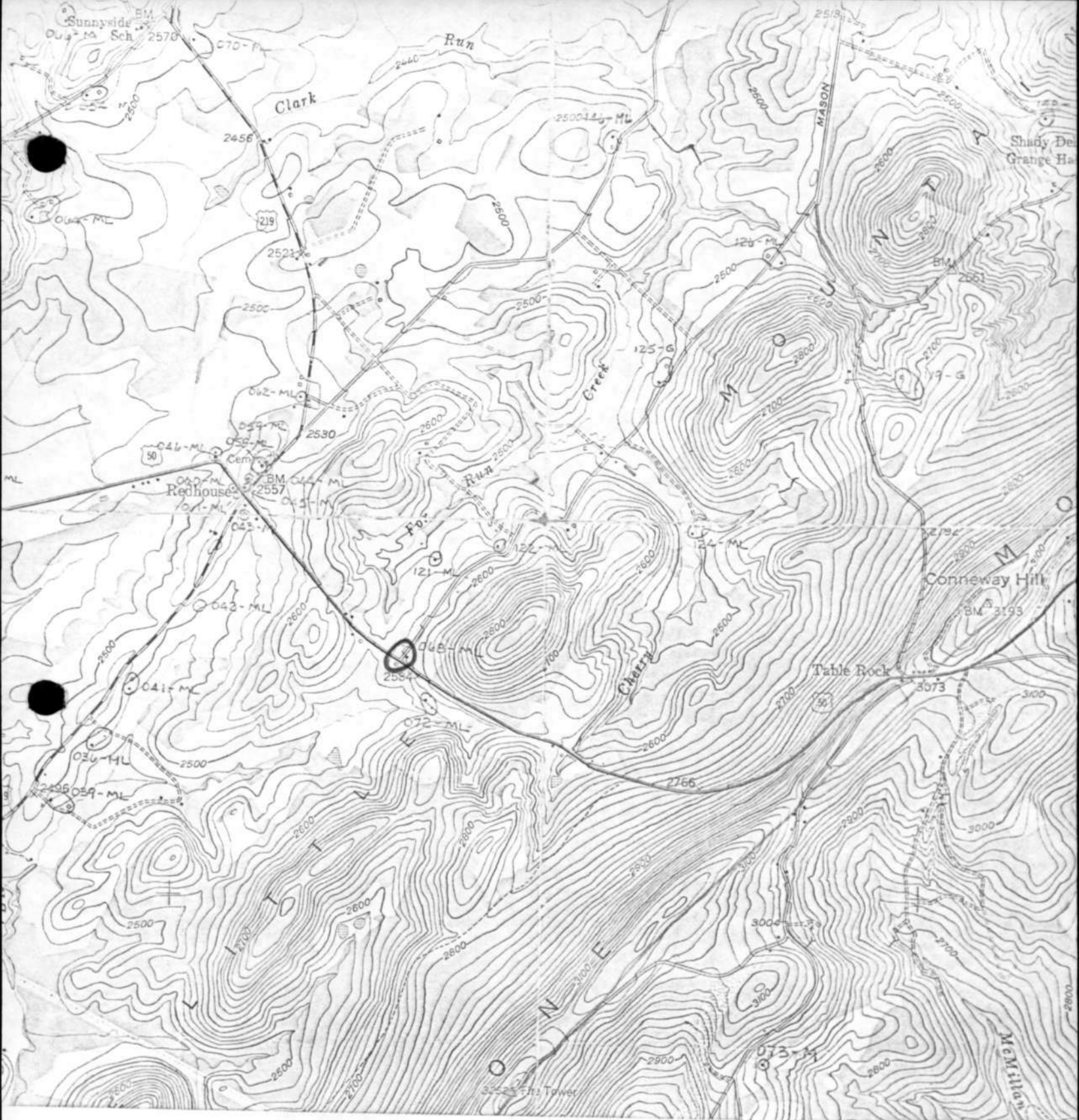


Table Rock MD:WV
 USGS 7.5 Minute Series
 Scale 1:24,000
 1948; photorevised 1974

G-V-A-068
 Victor Lee Farm
 Route 50, north and south sides,
 approx. 3/4 mile east of intersection
 with Route 219



G-V-A-068

Victor Lee Farm

Garrett Co., MD

Valerie Cesna 9/15/80

Facade, SW elev. & NW elev.



G-V-A-068

068

Victor Lee Farm

Garrett Co., MD

Valerie Cesna 9/15/80

NE & NW elev.



G-V-A-068

Victor Lee Farm

Garrett Co., MD

Valerie Cesna 9/17/80

NE & NW elev.

068 7



G-V-A-068

Victor Lee Farm

Garrett Co., MD

Valerie Cesna 9/17/80

Barn: SE & SW elev.



HW
70

HW
75

HW

77

G-V-A-068

Victor Lee Farm

Garrett Co., MD

Valerie Cesna 9/17/80

SE elev.

Mail Pouch Artist